

Message Text

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53

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FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5787

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY (TSWP) ACTIVISM

1. TURKISH SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY (TSWP) EMERGING AS AGGRESSIVE ELEMENT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SCENE. TSWP, WHOSE ACTIVITIES PREVIOUSLY LIMITED TO CAMPAIGN OF POSTERS AND PAINTED SLOGANS DENOUNCING FASCIST IMPERIALISM OR URGING WORKERS SEIZE RIGHTS, MOVED TO POLICE CONFRONTATION PHASE JAN. 18 DURING PROTEST MARCH CONDEMNING JANDARMA SHOOTING OF SMUGGLERS IN EASTERN TURKISH TOWN VIRANSEHIR. DEFYING ISTANBUL MARTIAL LAW AUTHORITIES' REFUSAL OF PERMISSION TO DEMONSTRATE, TWSP MARCHED TO ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY CHANTING SLOGANS. IN SUBSEQUENT CLASH WITH POLICE "PANZER" UNITS, 3 POLICE AND 23 DEMONSTRATORS WOUNDED; 53 TURNED OVER TO STATE SECURITY COURT.

2. IN FURTHER DEFIANCE AUTHORITIES, TSWP MEMBERS BROKE POLICE SEAL ON PARTY OFFICES, ALLEGING BUILDING SEARCHED AND SEALED ILLEGALLY. AT PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 23 TSWP ISTANBUL CHAIRMAN IBRAHIM SEVEN AND PROPAGANDA CHIEF (AND FORMER COLUMNIST FOR LEFTIST DAILY YENI ORTAM) OYA BAYDAR DENOUNCED "ANTIDEMOCRATIC" RAID ON LEGALLY ESTABLISHED ORGANIZATIONS.

3. COMMENT: TSWP IS MINOR SPLINTER GROUP ON EXTREME LEFT
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THAT HAS HAD LITTLE IF ANY IMPACT SINCE ITS FORMATION MAY 1974.

ITS NEW AGGRESSIVENESS TOWARD LAW AUTHORITIES PROBABLY IS EFFORT
TO WIN PUBLICITY AND SUPPORT AT EXPENSE OF REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S
PARTY (RPP) WHICH HAS BEEN ADVISING LEFT NOT TO REACT TO PROVOCATIONS
BY RIGHT-WING "COMMANDO" GROUPS.
MACE

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NNN

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